TRENDS

ASSOCIATION
OF AMERICAN
RAILROADS

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A3275-2

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

WASHINGTON, October 26, 1989 -- Carloadings* originated on major U.S. railroads during the week ended October 21 totaled 344,571, down 4.4 percent from the comparable week of 1988 and 1.8 percent below the preceding week of 1989, the Association of American Railroads (AAR) reported today. The railroads reporting account for approximately 94 percent of all rail carloads.

Carloadings originated were down 6.4 percent in the East and 1.8 percent in the West, compared with a year ago.

From the comparable 1988 week, loadings of metallic ores were down 4,845 cars (19.3 percent), and loadings of motor vehicles and equipment were off 2,656 cars (12.6 percent). Grain loadings were down 1,248 cars (4.1 percent).

Cumulative carloadings for the first 42 weeks of 1989 totaled 14,018,224, down 1.3 percent from the comparable period a year ago.

Intermodal traffic on Class I railroads -- which is not included in the carloadings -- totaled 125,376 trailers and/or containers for the week ended October 21, up 5.4 percent from the comparable week of 1988.

The cumulative volume of TOFC/COFC traffic for the first 42 weeks of 1989 was 4,787,867 trailers and/or containers, 3.0 percent above the comparable 1988 total.

The AAR also estimated that ton-miles carried on major railroads in the week ended October 21 totaled 19.7 billion, 3.0 percent below the comparable week of 1988. Cumulative volume for the first 42 weeks of 1989 was an estimated 805.0 billion ton-miles, down 0.2 percent from the comparable period of last year.

**Because of changes in reporting, 1989 figures are not comparable to previous years, except for 1988, which has been restated for purposes of comparison with 1989.*

(more)

WEEKLY TRAFFIC OF MAJOR RAILROADS
FOR THE WEEK ENDING OCTOBER 21, 1989

CARLOADS ORIGINATED, BY COMMODITY GROUP

COMMODITY	WEEK ENDING OCTOBER 21, 1989	COMPARISON WITH SAME WEEK OF 1988	CHANGE	COMPARISON WITH PRECEDING WEEK	CHANGE
Grain	29,482	30,730	-4.1 %	29,360	.4 %
Farm Products, Ex. Grain	2,558	2,880	-11.2	2,885	-11.3
Metallic Ores	20,246	25,091	-19.3	17,352	16.7
Coal	127,006	126,806	.2	134,495	-5.6
Crushed Stone, Sand & Gravel	18,737	18,889	-.8	18,601	.7
Nonmetallic Minerals	9,827	10,993	-10.6	10,321	-4.8
Grain Mill Products	10,594	10,302	2.8	10,161	4.3
Food & Kindred Products	9,152	9,500	-3.7	8,774	4.3
Primary Forest Products	9,282	9,961	-6.8	9,349	-.7
Lumber & Wood Products	6,355	7,151	-11.1	6,266	1.4
Pulp, Paper & Allied Products	9,621	10,214	-5.8	10,200	-5.7
Chemicals	26,855	27,911	-3.8	27,516	-2.4
Petroleum Products	4,812	5,088	-5.4	5,406	-11.0
Stone, Clay & Glass Products	11,049	11,472	-3.7	11,288	-2.1
Coke	5,740	5,490	4.6	5,521	4.0
Metals & Products	8,817	9,776	-9.8	9,097	-3.1
Motor Vehicles & Equipment	18,494	21,150	-12.6	18,219	1.5
Waste & Scrap Materials	8,605	9,880	-10.9	8,770	.4
All Other Carloads	7,139	6,997	2.0	7,163	-.3
Total	344,571	360,281	-4.4 %	350,746	-1.8 %

SUMMARY: CARLOADS ORIGINATED, INTERMODAL TRAFFIC AND ESTIMATED TON-MILES

TRAFFIC	WEEK ENDING OCTOBER 21, 1989			CUMULATIVE: 42 WEEKS ENDING OCTOBER 21, 1989		
	1989	1988	CHANGE	1989	1988	CHANGE
Carloads Originated	344,571	360,281	-4.4 %	14,018,224	14,196,051	-1.3 %
Intermodal Traffic Originated						
Trailers	71,925	71,128	1.1	2,778,629	2,803,869	-.9
Containers	53,451	47,862	11.7	2,009,238	1,844,693	8.9
Total	125,376	118,990	5.4	4,787,867	4,648,562	3.0
Estimated Ton-Miles						
Class I Railroads (Billions)	19.7	20.3	-3.0 %	805.0	807.0	-.2 %

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